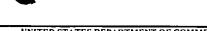




United States Patent and Trademark Office



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| PPLICATION NO. | CATION NO. FILING DATE | | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. | |
|--|------------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--|
| 09/967,223 | 09/967,223 09/28/2001 | | Seoju Lee | JB01337K | 9381 | |
| 24265 | 7590 01/27/2004 | | | EXAMINER | | |
| SCHERING-PLOUGH CORPORATION | | | | WEBMAN, I | WEBMAN, EDWARD J | |
| PATENT DEPARTMENT (K-6-1, 1990) 2000 GALLOPING HILL ROAD KENILWORTH, NJ 07033-0530 | | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | |
| | | | | 1617 | | |
| | | | | DATE MAILED: 01/27/2004 | 4 | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application/Control Number: 09/967,223

Art Unit: 1617

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 21-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US published application 20030186386 ('386).

'386 teaches a single linear or branched PEG molecule of molecular weight at least 20k linked to the N terminal of IL-10 (abstract) page 18 paragraph 103).

Commercially available activated linear and branched PEGS are specified, including those of applicant supplied U.S. Patent 5,932,462 (page 16 paragraph 96).

US published application '366, filed 12/03/02, was originally filed as two US provisional applications 60184024 and 60230093 with filing dates 2/22/00 and 9/5/00 respectively, with intervening PCT/DK01/00091 filed 2/9/01 in English and designating the US.

If a copy of a provisional application listed on the bottom portion of the accompanying Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) form is not included with this Office action and the PTO-892 has been annotated to indicate that the copy was not readily available, it is because the copy could not be readily obtained when the Office action was mailed. Should applicant desire a copy of such a provisional application, applicant should promptly request the copy from the Office of Public Records (OPR) in

Application/Control Number: 09/967,223

Art Unit: 1617

accordance with 37 CFR 1.14(a)(1)(iv), paying the required fee under 37 CFR 1.19(b)(1). If a copy is ordered from OPR, the shortened statutory period for reply to this Office action will not be reset under MPEP § 710.06 unless applicant can demonstrate a substantial delay by the Office in fulfilling the order for the copy of the provisional application. Where the applicant has been notified on the PTO-892 that a copy of the provisional application is not readily available, the provision of MPEP § 707.05(a) that a copy of the cited reference will be automatically furnished without charge does not apply.

Upon allowable subject matter, the nonelected groups will be rejoined per MPEP 821.04

No claims allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward J. Webman whose telephone number is 308-4432. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, S. Padmanabhan can be reached on 305-1877. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 308-1234.

Webman/tgd

December 30, 2003

EDWARD J. VEBMAN PRIMARY EXAMINER